

**WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:**

1        1. A system for informing a recipient of an investment gift,  
2 said system comprising:

3              a financial institution offering an investment plan;

4              a recipient receiving the investment plan;

5              an investor contributing to the investment plan for said recipient;

6 and

7              an information provider providing a message to said recipient of  
8 said investor's contribution to the investment plan.

1        2. The system of claim 1 wherein the message is a card.

1        3. The system of claim 1 wherein the message is an email  
2 message delivered via the Internet.

1        4. The system of claim 1 wherein the message is a voice  
2 message generated by said information provider.

1        5. The system of claim 1 wherein said information provider  
2 provides a plurality of messages, said investor selecting a message from  
3 said plurality of messages for delivery to said recipient.

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1           6. The system of claim 1 wherein said message includes a  
2 textual message indicating that said recipient has been given an  
3 investment gift from said investor.

1           7. The system of claim 7 wherein said message includes an  
2 illustration.

1           8. The system of claim 1 wherein said message includes a  
2 blank area allowing said investor to transfer personalized information to  
3 said recipient.

1           9. The system of claim 1 wherein said information provider  
2 provides an electronic message via a web site for selection by said  
3 investor, said electronic message being delivered to said recipient from  
4 said financial institution to indicate that an investment gift has been  
5 given by said investor to said recipient.

1           10. The system of claim 1 wherein said information provider  
2 provides the message to the financial institution for distribution to the  
3 recipient.

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1           11. The system of claim 1 wherein the message includes a  
2 specialized gift for said recipient.

1           12. A method of informing a recipient of an investment gift  
2 from an investor, said method comprising the steps of:

3           providing, by an information provider, a message to a financial  
4 institution offering an investment plan;

5           communicating, by the investor, with the financial institution;

6           offering, by the financial institution, an investment plan to the  
7 investor;

8           selecting, by the investor, the investment plan as a gift to the  
9 recipient;

10          offering a message created by the information provider to the  
11 investor;

12          selecting, by the investor, the message from the financial  
13 institution; and

14          sending the message to the recipient, said message indicating that  
15 an investment gift has been given to the recipient.

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1        13. The method of claim 11 wherein said step of providing a  
2 message to the financial institution includes providing a plurality of  
3 messages to the financial institution.

1        14. The method of claim 12 wherein said step of selecting the  
2 message from the financial institution includes selecting a message from  
3 the plurality of messages from the financial institution.

1        15. The method of claim 11 wherein said step of providing a  
2 message to the financial institution includes providing an electronic  
3 message to the financial institution.

1        16. The method of claim 11 further comprising, after the step of  
2 selecting the message from the financial institution, the step of adding  
3 additional information to the message.

1        17. The method of claim 11 wherein the message is a card  
2 having an illustration and a textual message indicating that a investment  
3 gift has been given to the recipient.

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1        18. The method of claim 11 further comprising, after the step of  
2 communicating by the investor with the financial institution, the step of  
3 displaying a message capable of being sent to a recipient of an  
4 investment gift.

1        19. A system for informing a recipient of an investment gift,  
2 said system comprising:  
3              a financial institution offering an investment gift plan;  
4              a recipient receiving the investment gift plan;  
5              an investor contributing to the investment gift plan, said investor  
6 designating said recipient to receive the investment gift plan; and  
7              an information provider providing a message to said financial  
8 institution;  
9              whereby said financial institution offers a service of sending the  
10 message provided by said information provider to said recipient, the  
11 message informing said recipient of the investment gift being given by  
12 said investor.